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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Matthew Denesuk and Eugenie V. Uhlmann

For: MICROBE-INHIBITING TEXTILE-BASED AMUSEMENT ARTICLES FOR PETS

Serial No.: 09/872,500 Examiner: Thomas Price

Filed: June 1, 2001 Group Art Unit: 3643

Atty. Docket: 70961-26 Confirmation No.: 2079

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Date: <u>February 11, 2002</u>	Signature <u><i>John E. McGarry</i></u> Type or print name of person certifying: <u>John E. McGarry</u>

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

This paper is responsive to the Office Action mailed September 11, 2001.

In the Office Action, restriction was required under 35 U.S.C. § 121:

- Group I. - Claims 19-22 and 32-46 drawn to an amusement article, and
- Group II. - 23-31 drawn to a process for imparting microbe-inhibiting properties.

The restriction requirement is respectfully traversed. The Examiner has not made a showing that the claim process can be used to apply to a microbe-inhibiting agent to other types of toys. Applicant believes that the contrary is true.

However, responsive to the restriction requirement, Applicant provisionally elects Group I, claims 19-22 and 32-46, drawn to an amusement article. It appears that claims 32-39 also

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relate to a process for imparting a microbe-inhibiting properties to a pet article. Perhaps the examiner meant to include these claims as well in Group II rather than Group I.

The Examiner has further required election of species between claims 19-22, claims 32-39, 40-44 and claims 45 and 46. Restriction requirement is respectfully traversed. However, Applicant provisionally elects the examiner's Group IV, claims 45 and 46, drawn to a textile-based amusement article having an outer textile coating.

An action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew Densuk and Eugenie V. Uhlmann

Dated: February 11, 2002

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